

APPARATUS FOR IMPLANTING DEVICES  
IN ATRIAL APPENDAGES

Abstract of the Disclosure

5 The invention provides a delivery system for  
placing devices in atrial appendages. The system  
includes a catheterization apparatus having a tubular  
structure with one or more nested tubes, wires, and  
shafts. The tubes establish a passageway for moving a  
device through a body's vasculature and heart into an  
10 atrial appendage. An expandable positioning guide is  
disposed on the distal end of a tube passing through  
the apparatus. The positioning guide is expanded in  
situ to engage atrial wall surfaces proximate to the  
atrial appendage for mechanical support. The deployed  
15 positioning guide mechanically stabilizes the device  
delivery passageway. A shaft passing through the tubes  
transports the device through the passageway to the  
atrial appendage.

The system includes catheterization apparatus  
20 for transseptal delivery of the devices. An outer tube  
or sheath in the apparatus is used to penetrate and  
traverse the septum. An expandable securement device  
is disposed toward an end of the sheath. The  
securement device is expanded in situ to engage surface  
25 portions of the traversed septum to restrain further  
inadvertent movement of the septum-traversing sheath.

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